partial area 16 are deactivated. Here, it must be noted that pixels activated in the presentations shown in Figs. 2 through 4 are shown with hatching and deactivated pixels are shown as white.

If the user of the mobile communications terminal switches from standby mode to normal mode and sets up a communications connection via which the multimedia communications information which is to be presented on the display 13 is obtained, a normal refresh of the entire display 13 is carried out by the display controller 11, so that the entire display surface, i.e. the partial area 15 and the partial area 16, is available and activated for the display. Furthermore, the aforementioned status information can be presented in the partial area 15, whereas the multimedia communications information, such as graphics or images, are displayed in the partial area 16. It is likewise possible for communications information also to be presented in the partial area 15 which is actually provided for the status information, onto which communications information the status information also can be superimposed.

In the embodiment shown in Fig. 2, the partial area 15 provided for the presentation of miscellaneous user information and status information is disposed on the upper edge of the display 13. For visual clarity of the display 13, it is advantageous if this partial area 15 is generally provided in the circumstantial area of the display 13, whereby the partial area 15 also may be provided on the lower edge or on the lateral edge of the display 13. In order to minimize the power consumption in standby mode, it is advantageous to design the surface of the partial area 15 to be as small as possible compared with the entire display surface or the surface of the partial area 16, so that only a minimum display surface 15 of the display 13 needs to be operated if no multimedia communications information is available; i.e., if the partial area 16 of the display 13 is not in use.

Normal color display panels can be used for the display 13; i.e., no special developments are required. The display 13 is divided into the partial areas 15 and 16 and the individual pixels of these partial areas are controlled simply depending

on the display controller 11 shown in Fig. 1. This will be explained in detail below, where the control of the individual partial areas 15 and 16 of the display 13 can be implemented in two different ways.

The task of the display controller 11 shown in Fig. 1 is to process cyclically the individual pixels of the display 13 and supply them with picture information. The functionality of the display controller 11 then can be adapted in such a way that, in standby mode in which no multimedia communications information is presented in the partial area 16, the display controller 11 processes only the pixels of the partial area provided for the presentation of user information or status information, as in the embodiment shown in Fig. 2, only the uppermost pixel lines of the display 13 belonging to the partial area 15 being cyclically refreshed and activated in standby mode. For this purpose, the display controller 11 may have an internal line counter which is reset with each refresh cycle and counts the pixel lines of the display 13 which are instantaneously being refreshed by the display controller 11. As soon as the display controller 11 in standby mode, with reference to the internal counter level, determines that a pixel line 14 of the display 13 is to be refreshed or supplied with picture information which belongs to the partial area 16 of the display 13, this line is no longer processed by the display controller 11 and is, therefore, not supplied with picture information; i.e., the pixel lines 14 belonging to the partial area 16 of the display 13 remain dark. This procedure is repeated with each refresh cycle.

Alternatively, it is also possible in a corresponding manner to connect the display controller 11 externally to a counter 12, as shown by the broken line in Fig. 1. As such, in addition to the conventional chip of the display controller 11, a control counter 12 is provided which also counts the pixel lines processed by the display controller 11. Once the display controller 11 in standby mode has processed the pixel lines belonging to the partial area 15, for example the first 20 pixel lines of the display 13, it is disabled by the control counter 12. Similar to the first variant described above, the remainder of the display 13, i.e. the pixel lines 14 belonging to the partial area 16, are not processed in this case by the display controller 11, so

that these pixel lines are not supplied with picture information. In this case also, this procedure is repeated with each refresh cycle, whereby the counter level of the counter 12 is reset at the start of each refresh cycle.

The control of the display 13 is, of course, not restricted to the embodiment explained with reference to Fig. 2, in which entire pixel lines are allocated to the partial areas 15 and 16. It is also possible for a group of individual pixels of the display 13 to be allocated to the partial areas 15 and 16 without this group forming entire pixel lines. In this case, the display controller 11 and the counter 12 would have to be adapted compared with the above description in such a way that individual pixels of the matrix-type display 13, rather than entire pixel lines, are counted and monitored. As such, similar to the above procedure, on reaching a pixel allocated to the partial area 16, the processing of this pixel is suppressed by the display controller 11 so that no picture information is supplied to this pixel.

Thus, for example, the partial area 15 provided for the presentation of user information and status information can be disposed on a lateral edge of the matrix-type display 13 which is divided into pixel lines 14 and pixel columns 17. This embodiment is shown in Fig. 3.

It is similarly possible, for example, to allocate a group of pixels provided in a corner area of the display 13 to the partial area 15 for the presentation of user or status information. This embodiment is shown in Fig. 4.

Although the present invention has been described with reference to specific embodiments, those of skill in the art will recognize that changes may be made thereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the hereafter appended claims.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A mobile communications terminal with a display unit which is divided into a first partial area for the exclusive presentation of multimedia communications information, and a second partial area for the presentation of miscellaneous user information. The display unit is controlled by a display controller in such a way that, in the absence of multimedia communications information, only the second